

COMMITMENTS TO, MAINTENANCE IN, AND DIS-
CHARGES FROM THE DISTRICT TRAINING SCHOOL

DECEMBER 11, 1924.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on
the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. UNDERHILL, from the Committee on the District of Columbia,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 9435]

The Committee on the District of Columbia, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9435) to provide for commitments to, maintenance in, and discharges from the District training school, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that it do pass.

The need for the passage of the legislation and the approval of the District authorities is set forth in the following report of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia upon this bill:

OFFICE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, June 2, 1924.

HON. STUART F. REED,
*Chairman Committee on the District of Columbia,
House of Representatives.*

SIR: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to submit the following on H. R. 9435, Sixty-eighth Congress, first session, entitled "A bill to provide for commitments to, maintenance in, and discharges from the District training school, and for other purposes," which you referred to them for consideration and recommendation.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia were authorized to acquire a site for a home and school for feeble-minded persons located in the District of Columbia, or in the State of Maryland, or in the State of Virginia, and to erect thereon suitable buildings at a total cost of not exceeding \$300,000, of which not more than \$38,000 was authorized to be expended for a site. Under the authority of this act, a site containing approximately 827 acres was secured, located in the State of Maryland about halfway between Baltimore and Washington, adjoining the Government reservation known as Camp Meade.

The object of this bill is to designate this institution as "the District training school," and to provide for the population thereof by defining those feeble-minded who would be admitted to said institution, for the administration of the institution, and for other purposes.

The commissioners have long favored the establishment of such an institution and a measure such as provided by this bill for its administration, and are

thoroughly in sympathy with the purposes of the bill. They had hoped that the legislation provided for in the bill might be incorporated in the general proposition of the establishment of a board of public welfare for the District of Columbia, as contemplated by House bill 8464 of the present Congress. This bill was introduced at the request of the commissioners and is the result of a careful study of a commission on public welfare composed of a number of prominent citizens of the District of Columbia who were assisted in their work by an expert of the Russell Sage Foundation. It is not probable, however, that the bill providing for this board of public welfare can be enacted at the present session of Congress.

The commissioners are in sympathy with the purposes of House bill 9435, and recommend favorable action thereon. If it is later determined that some changes are necessary in the provisions of the bill, in order to make it harmonize with the general subject of welfare legislation as proposed by the commissioners, this could be accomplished at a later date.

Very respectfully,

By CUNO H. RUDOLPH, *President*.